



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

June 26, 2014

Marijuana Action Alert



Legalization of marijuana as medicine has not stopped illegal drug trafficking

Marijuana use, cultivation, and trafficking are pervasive in Oregon. Outdoor marijuana cultivation sites have been discovered on public and private lands in Oregon since 2006 -- primarily operated by Mexican National Drug Trafficking Organizations (MNDTOs). Additionally, federal authorities report that Asian crime groups are involved in marijuana trafficking and have established large coordinated indoor grow operations in Oregon, Washington and Northern California.

Oregon's Medical Marijuana Act, which allows for quantities of marijuana to be grown and used for qualifying medical conditions, continues to be exploited by local producers who use it to facilitate illegal cultivation for commercial purposes.

Source: Executive Summary, Oregon Department of Justice, HIDTA Program, June, 2014 [Read the report](#)

Marijuana App Will Deliver Pot to Your Door

Two 19 year old men, hoping to make a lot of money, have set up an app to deliver marijuana to people in Washington State who have a medical marijuana card.

The mother of one of the boys said, "Go ahead and pursue this business; just don't partake in what you're delivering." [Read more](#)

The Myths of Smoking Pot

In an interview with the Washington Post, Nora Volkow, head of the National Institute on Drug Abuse pointed to the harms already inflicted by tobacco and alcohol. She said, "The legalization process generates a much greater exposure of people and hence of negative consequences that will emerge."

"I think that what we are seeing is a little bit of wishful thinking in the sense that we want to have a drug that will make us all feel good and believe that there are no harmful consequences," she said. "When you are intoxicated, your memory and learning are going to go

down. When you are intoxicated, your motor coordination is going to go down. When you are repeatedly using marijuana, there is an increased risk for addiction. And if you are an adolescent and you are taking marijuana, there is a higher increased risk for addiction and there is also a higher risk for long-lasting decreases in cognitive capacity - that is, lowering of IQ."

Nicotine does not interfere with cognitive ability. So if you are an adolescent and you are smoking marijuana and going to school, it's going to interfere with your capacity to learn. She cautions you "do not want to mess with your cognitive capacity, that that is a very large price to pay." [Read more](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

1. **Send this Alert to your State Representative and State Senator and ask them to **OPPOSE** the legalization of marijuana.**
2. **Contact Governor Quinn and ask him to Veto SB 2636 that allows children 18 and under to get a medical marijuana card for ALL 40 conditions and treatments, not just seizures. (Phone 800-642-3112)**
3. **PRAY**
4. **FORWARD to 10 others.**

Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action.

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